



IN 09/217,401

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Kenzo Ishida et al.
Serial No.: 09/217,401
Filed: December 21, 1998
Title: EASY MOUNT SOCKET

Examiner: Thanh Y. Tran
Group Art Unit: 2841
Docket: 884.088US1

#13
9-25-01
Robertson
Response
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RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

This response is directed to the Office Action mailed on May 23, 2001.

9/24/01
This response is accompanied by a Petition, as well as the appropriate fee, to obtain a one-month extension of the period for responding to the Office action, thereby moving the deadline for response from August 23, 2001 to September 23, 2001.

REMARKS

Applicant has considered the Office Action mailed on May 23, 2001, and the references cited therewith. Claims 1, 4-7, 9-14, and 17-24 are now pending in this application.

The rejections of claims 1, 4, and 20-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Smith et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,620,761) are respectfully traversed. A rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102 must show every element of the claimed invention. Among the differences between independent claims 1, 20, 21, and 22 and Smith are the claim recitations the terminals include "a conductive polymer."

The Office Action states in par. 2 that column 5 lines 53-55 describe a conductive polymer injected in the vias of Smith's Fig. 9. This passage states, in full:

"A coil spring 80 formed of suitable electrically conductive material having good spring characteristics, such as beryllium copper coated with a noble metal, is received in each recess."

Applicant is unable to find any teaching or suggestion of a conductive polymer socket terminal in this passage, or in any other description pertaining to Fig. 9 col. 5 line 41 to col. 6 line 29. Claims 4 and 23-24 incorporate the same recitation by virtue of their dependence from claim 1. Accordingly, these rejections must fall.

The rejections of claims 5-7, 9-10, 11, and 18-19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Smith et al. in view of Stopperan (U.S. Patent No. 5,719,749) are likewise respectfully traversed. The only relevant teaching added to Smith by Stopperan is the use of adhesives. Therefore no combination of Smith and Stopperan, proper or improper, describes or suggests the conductive polymer terminal that is recited in independent claims 9, 11 and 18, and that is incorporated into dependent claims